



KENT COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Free Recycling of Older-Style TVs through September 30

Grand Rapids – Kent County is partnering with a manufacturer-supported recycling program to accept cathode ray tube (CRT) electronic devices at no charge. Starting Monday, July 18, there is no fee to recycle older TVs and computer monitors at any of Kent County's three facilities and is expected to last until September 30th, 2016.

Though it seems most households have purchased flat-screen televisions, many may still have an older cathode ray tube (CRT) television in their home, either still in use or stashed away in the garage or basement. Kent County Department of Public Works (DPW) encourages residents to take this opportunity to recycle their unneeded CRT devices while there is no fee to do so.

"We're pleased to be able to announce that there is no cost for consumers to drop off electronics at Kent County facilities," said Darwin Baas, Director of the Kent County Department of Public Works. "While this doesn't mean there isn't a cost to recycle them, the financial support from manufacturers allows us to accept older TVs at no charge and this should encourage more people to make the extra effort to recycle their electronics before September 30th."

Kent County has collected nearly 6 million pounds of electronics, including CRT devices like televisions and computer monitors, since 2001. These items are processed by a third-party recycler. CRT televisions contains approximately 5-10 pounds of lead, a toxic component for our environment that can cause a variety of health issues.

In February 2015, the increasing cost and lack of manufacturer support to recycle CRT devices forced Kent County to charge residents a portion of the cost of recycling older-style televisions and computer monitors. The fees ranged from \$15 to \$60 per device for televisions, computer monitors and projection screen televisions.

Kent County's facilities for electronics recycling are located at North Kent Recycling & Waste Center at 2908 Ten Mile Road in Rockford; Kent County Recycling and Education Center at 977 Wealthy SW in Grand Rapids; and South Kent Landfill at 10300 South Kent Drive in Byron Center.

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